

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 15, 16 and 21, and amend the remaining claims as follows:

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12. A method for producing a card-shaped information carrier, comprising the steps of: placing at least one card template which is to be sized into a hollow mold; subjecting the template to a simultaneous action of pressure and heat for a predetermined time so that the template placed into the hollow mold is heated over at least one large area by heating plates; and enclosing a peripheral, narrow, outer boundary region of the inserted template so that quantities of heat flowing off per se there are retained, blocked in, reflected and concentrated back onto the template.

14. An apparatus for producing a sized, card-shaped information carrier comprising a frame defining a cavity in which card layers are placeable for lamination by pressure and heat, a peripheral region of the frame consisting of a material which is one of substantially non-heat-conducting, reflects heat and concentrates heat back onto an inserted laminate, the frame having internal dimensions that correspond to final dimensions of the card-shaped carrier, and further comprising heating plates arranged on both sides of the frame forming, by its internal dimensions, the cavity for the laminating process, the heating plates including an upper heating plate and a lower heating plate, the frame having a reduction in material in a transitional edge region in order to increase specific contact pressure between frame border edge and the upper

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*work*

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heating plate, one of the heating plates having external dimensions that correspond to the internal dimensions of the frame and being insertable with a prestressing action into said frame so as to produce the pressure required for laminating.

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17. An apparatus as defined in claim 16, wherein the lower heating plate has the external dimensions that correspond to the internal dimensions of the frame, and further comprising a cooling body adjacent to the lower heating plate so that the cooling body is insertable together with the lower heating plate into the frame.

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22. An apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein the reduction in material is formed by a peripheral, outer annular recess in the frame.

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23. An apparatus as defined in claim 19, and further comprising dedicated prestressing means for pressing a transitional boundary edge of the frame against the boundary lip of the upper heating plate.